



Mayoral Proclamation In Recognition of Week of the Young Child



Whereas, children's cognitive, physical, social and emotional, and language and literacy development are built on a foundation of children's positive interactions with adults, peers, and their environment; and

Whereas, participation in high-quality early childhood education saves taxpayer dollars, makes working families more economically secure, and prepares children to succeed in school, earn higher wages, and live healthier lives; and

Whereas, high-quality early childhood education depends on high-quality early childhood educators who ensure that children, supported by families, have the early experiences they need for a strong foundation; and

Whereas, the essential yet chronically undervalued child care sector has sacrificed and struggled to serve children and families since the start of the COVID pandemic; and

Whereas, young children need, developmentally appropriate, accessible, and available early care and education settings; and

Whereas, working families need, robust subsidies, scholarships, and tax credits for families at all income levels that support the true cost of quality early childhood education; and

Whereas, Early educators need, ability to earn a family-sustaining wage that is commensurate with the required education and skills they bring to the complex and valuable work they do; and

Whereas, we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the WOYC so that we can continue to recognize and advance the early childhood education profession;

Now therefore, be it resolved that I, Jay Coelho, Mayor of Waterville on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim April 10th – 16th as the Week of the Young Child, and urge all member of our community to support efforts that increase children and families' access to high-quality early childhood education.

In Witness Whereof, I do hereby set my hands and seal this 6th day of April, two thousand and twenty-one.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Coelho".

Jay Coelho, Mayor